

# Veterinary REPORT

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Research News on  
Swine Production;  
Infertility; Wildlife  
Ecology



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*On the cover:* Veterinary Medicine  
Open House was held April 1.  
Photo by Nick Mann.

# Clinical Medicine Reports New Hires

By Herb Whiteley

After only six months on the job, Dr. David Williams has accomplished quite a lot as head of the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine. One of his top priorities has been recruiting faculty, and he has several successes to report.

"We've been able to attract good people in high-demand areas, where there are a dozen or more positions open nationally," he says, "so I feel we're off to a really good start in recruiting."

- Dr. Kristen O'Dell-Anderson has accepted a faculty position in diagnostic imaging (see page 11);
- Dr. Laura Garrett, a 1991 graduate of our College who is currently on the faculty at Kansas State University, will expand our oncology section to three, ensuring a strong program of clinical service, graduate training, and basic and applied research in cancer.
- Dr. Ed Garrett, who currently practices production medicine in the private sector, will join our Food Animal Reproduction, Medicine and Surgery section.
- Dr. Carrie Breaux will bring our ophthalmology section back to a full complement when she starts work in October. Dr. Breaux is finishing a residency program at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan.
- Dr. Julie Whittington moved to a non-visiting appointment as an exotics clinician and medical director of the Wildlife Medical Clinic.

"We are committed to building a program that encompasses clinical service, veterinary and graduate education, and research in the area of exotics and wildlife health," says Dr. Williams. "We hope to anchor this program with a third faculty member to complement the work of Dr. Whittington and Dr. Jennifer Langan, based at Brookfield Zoo."

Recruiting efforts in emergency and critical care are also taking shape. A long-range staffing plan is in place for the anesthesia section.

"Things are evolving quite well, and a strong plan is emerging for the future of the department," says Dr. Williams. "My philosophy as a leader is to hire the right people, give them the support they need, and then get out of their way."

On the College level, the past year has seen a flurry of hiring in leadership positions: Dr. Dan Rock to head the Department of Pathobiology, Dr. Williams in clinical medicine, and Dr. Michael Biehl as director of the teaching hospital (see next page). By the end of this summer we should have completed searches for the head of the Department of Veterinary Biosciences and the director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

This period has also been devoted to planning. We have refined our College strategic plan and tailored it, where appropriate, to mesh with the priorities outlined at the campus and university levels. Please read about our targeted initiatives on page 2.

With the right people in the right place and a strong strategic plan, the College of Veterinary Medicine is assuming a role as a leader in veterinary and biomedical education, research, and public engagement. 🐾



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# Hospital Director Brings New Perspectives

Whether he is conferring on strategic plans for the College, helping a fourth-year student sort through a difficulty, or stopping to say “thank you” at a support staff appreciation event, Dr. Michael Biehl is committed to “out-performing expectations.”

Dr. Biehl came aboard in May as director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, a new position created to ensure that the hospital provides the best possible patient care, the best possible service to clients and referring veterinarians, and the best possible clinical environment to support both teaching and research activities.

His return to his alma mater comes after a 16-year affiliation with Pfizer, where most recently he was associate director of Global Project Management in the Strategic Portfolio Operations Group. In that role he was heavily involved in strategic planning and execution, cultivating partnerships, leading and motivating teams, change management, and customer service.


“Mike has brought an infusion of new ideas and perspectives to the hospital,” notes College dean Herb Whiteley. “He’s engaging folks from a variety of backgrounds and outlooks and helping them work together on solutions.”

Dr. Biehl has longstanding ties to the College.

After completing his veterinary degree at Illinois in 1983, he worked at Carthage Veterinary Clinic for a year before returning to the College to pursue a toxicology residency, a PhD, and board certification in toxicology. He then joined Pfizer Global Research and Development in Groton, Conn., in the Department of Drug Safety Evaluation, where he managed safety assessment projects and programs for human drug development and later oversaw safety assessment activities for all global veterinary products. In 2004, he completed a master’s in business administration.

An important part of his new role will be reaching out to the Illinois veterinary community.

“I believe all Illinois or referring veterinarians—and especially College alumni—have a stake in seeing our Veterinary Teaching Hospital become one of the best in the country,” says Dr. Biehl. “To achieve our vision the hospital must foster and enhance partnerships with veterinarians throughout Illinois and beyond. We can do that by listening to their needs and consistently exceeding their expectations.”

You can contact Dr. Biehl at [vthdirector@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:vthdirector@cvm.uiuc.edu). 



Harry Zanotti

*Editor’s note:* Dr. Biehl will present a session entitled “The Ten Ps: A Vision of Excellence for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital” on Friday, September 15, at the Annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians. Here is an excerpt from that presentation. Plan to attend his talk and meet Dr. Biehl.

## A Vision of Excellence for the Veterinary Teaching Hospital

*By Dr. Michael Biehl*

I believe that veterinary teaching hospitals, both at Illinois and nationwide, must adapt new business models to continue effectively and efficiently balancing their three-part mission of excellence in public engagement, teaching, and research.

We can do that. Let me share some of the most critical components of our success.

The People who work in the hospital are its most important asset. I have been extremely impressed by their professionalism and passion. They are committed and ready to do their part to take the hospital to the next level.

Partnership and Performance relate to our key stakeholders, whether they are our clients, referring veterinarians, or others in the College or the University. Our main way to foster and enhance those partnerships is to consistently out-perform expectations. Effective partnering and listening, personal commitment, and stakeholder support will ensure we succeed.

Passion and Pride are our rewards. I believe our partners throughout the state and nation share in them as strongly as our own personnel do. Passion makes us jump out of bed each morning committed to the College’s mission, with an understanding of how our role contributes to its fulfillment. Pride comes from the quality of our “products” and knowing that we are making a difference to today’s patients, and—by training of tomorrow’s veterinarians—to the patients of the future.

I am looking forward to working with the hospital staff and, indeed, with all Illinois veterinarians and College alumni, each of whom has a role to play and rewards to reap as we move toward our goal.

Working together we will become one of the premier veterinary teaching hospitals in the country.





## Our Vision

The College of Veterinary Medicine aspires to be a leader in veterinary and comparative biomedical education, scholarship, and public engagement in the University of Illinois system, in the state, in the nation, and around the world.

# The Strategic Plan and You

## With Your Help, Illinois Can Accelerate to Excellence

We want you to know the top priorities identified by the College as part of the University-wide strategic planning process initiated by President Joe White. When he became the 16th president of the University of Illinois last year, his message was to set high aspirations, to focus intensely on executing our plans, and to secure the support and resources we need from our partners.

We have set high goals. Since 2002 the College has been engaged in vigorous strategic planning, and now our planning efforts are integrated into those of the University and its Urbana campus.

We bring unique and valuable resources and expertise, a tradition of interdisciplinary collaborations, outstanding research productivity, and a strong service orientation. These are the tools for executing our plans.

All that is needed is the support of our partners.

You are our partners, and through you we can broaden our support by reaching your clients; the citizens and legislators of Illinois; and your businesses and employers in veterinary practice, government agencies, industry, and elsewhere.

Without you, we cannot succeed, but with you we are assured a leadership role across the nation and around the world.

### DVM program

The professional veterinary degree program is the No. 1 priority of our College.

The faculty are completing a comprehensive assessment of the professional curriculum, making sure that new knowledge and new needs and expectations of society are incorporated. We are committed to producing competent entry-level professionals who are equipped to continue learning throughout their years in practice.



Bob Myers

### Translational Biomedical Research

“Translational biomedical research”—bringing basic research discoveries to bear in clinical applications for human and animal health—is our top research priority and the area where we see the greatest potential for making contributions at the campus and national levels. We envision the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and



Tom Schaefer

Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory as real-life laboratories for this work, the place of choice for campus researchers wishing to implement the practical health applications of biomaterials and other benchtop discoveries. An evolving graduate education program is preparing future researchers to operate in the highly interdisciplinary environment of biomedical research.

### Building Community

Our comprehensive facilities plan maps out new buildings and infrastructure to support our programmatic growth over the next 20 years. We have reached the limits of our current facilities in terms of class size in the professional veterinary degree program. We also need new clinical facilities to provide services and research innovations consistent with our vision of leadership in clinical service and biomedical translational research.



*Note:* The full strategic planning document is online at <http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/deans/cvmplan.html>.

### What Can You Do to Accelerate the Plan?

- If you have a personal connection with legislators at the state or federal level, please let us know. Call the Dean's office at 217/333-2760.
- Join the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association in its lobbying efforts. Visit or write to your legislators to ask for their support of the Veterinary Workforce Enhancement Act at the federal level and to support higher education, and the College of Veterinary Medicine in particular. See more at the Web sites for the ISVMA ([www.isvma.org](http://www.isvma.org)) and the AVMA ([www.avma.org](http://www.avma.org)).
- Become a leader in the upcoming capital campaign by committing to a significant gift and to identifying and encouraging other donors. Call Brenda Betts at 217/333-5545.
- Make a financial contribution of any size to show your support for the future of the College. Give online from the College home page at [www.cvm.uiuc.edu](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu).





Who Will Fund Our Initiatives? State Support Doesn't Stack Up

Illinois ranks last in state support among the veterinary institutions we look to for benchmarking (see graph). Even in a comparison including all 26 U.S. veterinary institutions that receive state support, Illinois falls \$7 million below the national mean for total state dollars and \$8 million below the national mean for state dollars per DVM student.

Our very limited state support hinders our ability to implement the initiatives in our strategic plan. In addition, the University of Illinois has announced that budget rescissions in every unit will continue for the next several years in order to generate funding for new campus-wide initiatives.

Funding sources include corporate and foundation partners, private giving, and funding at the state and national (through the Veterinary Workforce Expansion Act) levels. Your lobbying efforts through organizations such as the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association and animal producer groups will be key to our success.

	State Appropriations* (in millions)
National mean+	\$23.9
<b>Illinois</b>	<b>16.8</b>
Cornell	49.2
Florida	24.0
Michigan State	24.9
Minnesota	23.7
North Carolina State	27.4
Ohio State	22.6
Purdue	17.5
Wisconsin	21.2

\*Includes estimated tuition  
+ Excludes non-state-funded schools of Tuskegee and Western U. of Health Sciences.

Data taken from the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges Comparative Data Report for 2005-2006.

Triumph at the Teaching Hospital: Six Months to a Healthy, Hairy Me!

By Ozzie Smith  
As told to Marie Labak

My name is Ozzie, but for six months the friendly people at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital called me “Ozzie with the Purple T-Shirt.”

I’m a 6-year-old Keeshond from Villa Grove, Ill. Between September 20, 2005, and March 31, 2006, my owner and I made more than 16 visits to the hospital and I made a lot of friends there. (I used to be a show dog, so I know how to turn on the charm.)

You might be wondering about the purple T-shirt. That was to cover up the bald patches (the doctors called it “alopecia”) that I had for more than a year. But hair loss was actually the least of my problems.

My doctor said usually calcium levels return to normal pretty quickly after removing the problem, but mine didn’t play by the rules.

life-threatening, so he suggested that we go see the experts at the University of Illinois.

At my first visit they suspected that a tumor could be making my gland secrete too much of a hormone. Eight days later Dr. Tobin Eshelman opened me up and, sure enough, found a tumor and removed that gland. (Don’t worry. I still had three others left.)

After the surgery I stayed a few days. They took a lot of blood samples, but the technicians and students were really gentle. My doctor said usually calcium levels return to normal pretty quickly after removing the problem, but mine didn’t play by the rules.

Three weeks later I was back, and in bad shape because my calcium levels were too low. I couldn’t stand up, and I was panting and drooling. It was scary. Who knew calcium levels were so important?



That’s me with three of my doctors: Dr. Keppel, dermatology service, Dr. Owens, internal medicine, and Dr. Eshelman, surgery.

My veterinarian, Dr. Matt Allender at A&E Animal Hospital in Urbana, had been treating me for thyroid hormone deficiency (hypothyroidism) for about a year. I had to take a yummy pill every day.

But last fall I started having some other symptoms—including the hair loss—that were hard to diagnose. A blood test showed a really high calcium level. Dr. Allender said that could be caused by an overactive parathyroid gland, which helps regulate calcium levels. This condition is



Ozzie before.

continued on page 11


Editor’s note: Did you enjoy reading this article? We may continue highlighting cases from the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, and we would appreciate your feedback. Send comments to editor@cvm.uiuc.edu. Thank you!



## Extending Dentistry Education Online

The 10 dentistry modules created by Dr. Sandra Manfra Marretta for the Veterinary Education Online program are being made available to veterinary students at institutions that don't have a dentistry program.

Over the 2005-2006 academic year an organization supported by the American Veterinary Dental Society, the Academy of Veterinary Dentistry, and the American Veterinary Dental College provided a \$6,000 grant so that 200 Missouri and Texas A&M veterinary students could benefit from the modules.

In the coming academic year this group, along with Pfizer, have committed to a \$10,500 grant that will provide 350 students with access to the online dentistry modules. 

## 2006 Fall Conference Better Than Ever


It's time to reserve your hotel rooms for September 14 and 15 in Urbana.

This year's Fall Conference for Veterinarians will deliver practice-relevant information from some of the nation's top veterinary speakers in small animal medicine, swine, equine, cattle, and practice management.

Responding to participant feedback, we've added dental and radiology wet labs and expanded to two full days of educational sessions on equine medicine.

Programming for guests includes options to visit Curtis Orchards, the University's Japan House, Alto Vineyards, a Krannert Art Museum, and Market Place Mall.

Connect with classmates at a backyard barbecue on Thursday evening. The speaker will be Illini basketball legend and sports commentator Jerry Hester. The College and its Veterinary Medical Alumni Association will present the Erwin Small and Special Achievement awards.

Watch your mailbox for registration materials or register online at [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/ope/fallconf/](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/ope/fallconf/). 

## Whole Lotta Learning Going On

During the spring semester the staff and students of the College of Veterinary Medicine spread knowledge and awareness through these continuing education seminars and exhibits at public outreach events.

- Veterinarians, Trainers & Shelters Working Together: Helping Good Dogs, Bad Dogs and Controversial Cats, Urbana, January 13 to 15

- 2006 International Kennel Club Show, Chicago, February 24 to 27
- Illinois Horse Fair, Springfield, March 3 to 5
- Seminar for Alternative Therapies, Urbana, March 4
- Veterinary Technician Practices Seminar: Pain Management and Rehabilitation, Urbana, March 12
- 2006 Chicagoland Family Pet Expo, Arlington Heights, March 17 to 19
- Intensive Toxicology Short Course: Common Small Animal Toxicoses, Urbana, March 23 and 24
- 9th Annual Conference on New & Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases, Urbana, April 13 and 14
- Humane Education Seminar, Urbana, April 22
- Petstravaganza, Urbana, April 29 



## College Brings Bird Flu Facts to Illinois Communities

During April and May the College held six free public forums—in Chicago, Ina, Mattoon, Rock Island, Springfield, and Urbana—to promote the facts and allay the fears about the possibility of a global avian influenza pandemic.

The Office of Public Engagement organized a panel of speakers representing the College and other units on the Urbana campus of the University of Illinois as well as the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

The issue illustrates well the important role the veterinary profession plays in prob-




Amanda Barth



Amanda Barth

lems that span the disciplines of veterinary and human medicine and public health.

The presentations, which give an overview of viruses generally and specifics on avian

flu in domestic and wild animals and in human populations, are available on the Web at: <http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/czr/avianflu/> 





## Something to Blog Home About

"I think if I hadn't been sawing through spines and skulls the whole time I would have frozen solid," wrote Cristina Hansen, a fourth-year veterinary student who spent 4 weeks studying caribou herds in remote parts of Alaska. "I feel tough now though, having survived almost 6 hours of freezing rain in the middle of the Alaskan tundra."

Hansen, from Huntley, Ill., is one of two students from the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois who agreed to chronicle their summer experiences to help raise awareness about veterinary education and the veterinary profession.

Hansen spent last summer assisting with a study that assessed the health of the North Alaska Peninsula caribou herd. This summer, with funding from the Morris Animal Foundation, she went back to do her own research to determine a useful blood marker to evaluate the health of Alaskan caribou.

She is also participating in the Summer Training Program run by the Center for Zoonoses Research in which veterinary students work with faculty to complete a research project. Her advisor is Dr. Petra Volmer, of veterinary biosciences.

Emi Eaton kept a blog while interning at the College's cattle and swine farm at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center near the Shawnee National Forest. Eaton is a native of the California Bay Area who worked in health education and as a research technician for 5 years before entering veterinary school last fall. She chose to go to Dixon Springs to build her experiences in production animal medicine. 🐾

## "First Dog" to Host Fund-raiser for CARE Helpline

Webster may be small, but he knows how to throw a great party!

On October 5, he'll open the doors to his Urbana home—which happens to also be home to University President Joe White and Mary White—for a fun-filled evening in support of the Companion Animal-Related Emotions Grief Helpline, a student-run service that provides a supportive outlet for people experiencing the actual or anticipated death of their cherished companion animal.

The party takes place the Thursday before Homecoming and will feature an Illini trivia game and photos ops with Webster, an adorable Coton de Tulear. Suggested donations start at \$50 a person and space is limited. To find out more, call the Advancement Office at 217/333-2761. 🐾

Follow the adventures of  
veterinary students in Alaska  
and Dixon Springs at  
<http://uicvmstudentsummer.blogspot.com/> and  
<http://uicvmstudentsummer2.blogspot.com/>



- ... the AVMA Council on Education accreditation review team visited the College in late April?
- ... the Veterinary Teaching Hospital celebrated National Pet Week in May with a photo gallery featuring pets of faculty, staff, and students (see [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vth/PetGallery/](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vth/PetGallery/))?
- ... Veterinary students at the College are raising awareness about the role veterinarians can play in addressing both animal abuse and domestic violence?

Everyone who gets the College's e-newsletter, *Illinois VetReport*, hears the latest news every month. Don't miss out! Review past issues online from the College home page: [www.cvm.uiuc.edu](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu). Subscribe today by sending your email address to: [editor@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:editor@cvm.uiuc.edu). 🐾

## Phi Zeta Research Day

Fostering research skills in veterinary students as well as residents and graduate students, the Phi Zeta Honors Society sponsored the following research presentations on April 21. Motoko Mukai received an award for best basic science presentation. Lyn Wancket was noted for best clinical presentation. In addition, literary awards were granted in two categories: basic science, April Paulman winner; clinical, Rosana Lopes winner.

**Britany Benson, C Byron, A Stewart.** The effects of radial shock waves on metabolism of equine cartilage explants in vitro

**Melissa Hoffer, D Griffon, D Schaeffer, A Johnson, M Thomas.** Clinical applications of demineralized bone matrix in dogs: A retrospective and case-matched study of 81 cases (1999-2006)

**Karissa Kaufmann, A Stewart, P vanHarreveld, E Gaughan, J Lillich.** Distal phalangeal wounds managed with phalangeal casts: 43 cases (1995-2006)

**Andrew Lowe, T Graves, K Campbell, A Barger, D Schaeffer.** A comparison of the diabetogenic effects of prednisolone and dexamethasone in cats

*continued on page 15*



# Spotlight on Research

Excerpted from stories by Jim Barlow, News Bureau, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Read the full stories online at <http://www.news.uiuc.edu/news/06/>

## Farm Study Raises Doubts about New Approach to Swine-Disease Control

Sample sizes were small, but eyebrow-raising results from a study on a western Illinois farm have researchers and veterinarians taking a broader look at how swine producers battle an endemic viral disease that adds to their costs and threatens reproduction in their herds.

A new approach (acclimatization) has producers inoculating newly arrived pigs with the wild-type strain of the porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (PRRS) already existing on a farm. The hope is that the pigs will develop specific immunity to that virus and will recover prior to breeding, when the disease takes its toll.

The study found that the approach boosted development and strength of immunity against the local strain, but failed where it counted the most. Pigs exposed to the farm's virus produced slightly more live births than pigs vaccinated two other ways, but many of

**The most we can say is that the world still lacks an effective method for controlling PRRS virus in herds where the virus is endemic**

these acclimatized animals never gave birth at all and had to be removed from the herd.

"At first we found it encouraging that animals exposed to the wild-type virus, regardless of whether or not they got a subsequent exposure to vaccine, mounted a faster and stronger immune response to the virus than did animals given the modified live vaccine," says Dr. Tony Goldberg, pathobiology.

No positive effect on production was seen when compared with the more traditional approach of inoculations with a commercially available modified live vaccine.




L. Brian Stauffer, UI News Bureau

"All things considered, exposure to the existing wild-type virus resulted in a net reduction of 2.45 piglets for each sow introduced onto the farm," Dr. Goldberg says. "At this point, though, because of small sample size, the most we can say is that the world still lacks an effective method for controlling PRRS virus in herds where the virus is endemic."

The privately owned farm involved in the study had suffered from chronic PRRS infection for more than five years before the project was conducted in 2003-2004. The study—funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture—appeared in the April 1 issue of the *Journal of the American Veterinary Medicine Association*.

USDA funding is now covering a larger study on several Illinois farms. "We may be able to generalize more accurately or make some viable recommendations after we have analyzed the new data," says Dr. Goldberg.

The lead author of the study was Dr. James Lowe (DVM IL '94, MS '04), a master's degree student in epidemiology at the time of the study and now director of production services with Maschhoffs Inc., a swine-production company based in Carlyle, Ill.

Co-authors were Drs. Goldberg, Federico Zuckermann, Larry Firkins, and William Schnitzlein, all of pathobiology. 

## Absence of Critical Protein Linked to Infertility

Researchers at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign report that experiments involving mice indicate that the transcription factor protein C/EBPb must be present in the uterus for pregnancy to occur.

Without it, they say, an embryo cannot survive in uterine tissue or attach to a mother's blood supply. Other genes also play roles, but C/EBPb is critical for implantation of an embryo.

C/EBPb is scientifically known as CCAAT/Enhancer Binding Protein beta. It is regulated by the hormones estrogen and progesterone. In normal conditions, the protein, driven mostly by progesterone, is expressed rapidly and in large quantities during the critical four-day implantation period in mice.

During this period, an embryo attaches to the wall of the uterus, advances into it and eventually attaches to the blood supply and forms the placenta. For a successful pregnancy to occur, stromal cells of the uterus must be

**This gene is expressed when the uterus is ready for embryo attachment. Its presence indicates a window for success.**

transformed into decidual cells, which secrete nutrients that allow the embryo to survive until it plugs into the blood supply. C/EBPb is necessary for decidualization, the researchers discovered.

"This protein in the mouse is also in humans," says Dr. Milan Bagchi, a professor of molecular and integrative physiology at the University of Illinois. "We believe it plays a critical role in human pregnancy. It is expressed in the human endometrium at a time that coincides with the time of implantation. We have demonstrated very clearly in the mouse that in the absence of C/EBPb there







Tom Schaeffges

## Monkey Study Offers Clues about Land-Use, Wildlife Ecology

Fecal matter of red colobus monkeys collected in western Uganda has yielded a wealth of knowledge about human land-use change and wildlife health and conservation. The main lesson, researchers say, is that the intensity of tree removal translates directly to parasite populations and the risk of infection of their hosts.

In an effort to glean predictive power out of years of research on the effects of forest fragmentation on various species and ecological processes, researchers looked at nine differently fragmented regions of forests located in what is now agricultural landscape just west of Kibale National Park, in the foothills of the Ruwenzori Mountains. Within these regions, they focused on populations of red colobus monkeys and the presence of strongyle and rhabditoid nematodes.

For two years, Dr. Thomas Gillespie, pathobiology, and Dr. Colin Chapman, an anthropologist at McGill University in Canada, surveyed the monkeys and determined nematode levels by examining 536 colobus fecal samples. Their study appeared in the April issue of *Conservation Biology*.

Dr. Gillespie is co-director with Dr. Tony Goldberg, also pathobiology, of the Kibale EcoHealth Project, a flagship program of the University's Earth and Society Initiative on Emerging Disease & Ecosystem Health.

Red colobus are one of the most endangered African colobine species. The two

is no decidualization. We transferred viable mouse embryos from healthy mice into mice lacking the gene, and pregnancy failed."

"This gene is expressed when the uterus is ready for embryo attachment," notes Dr. Indrani Bagchi, a professor of veterinary biosciences who is a co-author of the study. "Its presence indicates a window for success."

If the findings are replicated in human tissue, as expected, she says, the protein's presence could become a vital gene marker for predicting uterine readiness for pregnancy.

"The success rate for the practice of in vitro fertilization currently is, on average, about 25 percent," she says. "The major problem is that the conditions occurring when the embryo is transferred often are not the best in the uterus. It's not known if the uterus is ready to accept an embryo, so often multiple embryos are transferred in hopes that one will attach. In future studies, confirmation of C/EBPb as a marker that correctly indicates uterine readiness for implantation in the human is likely to alleviate these shortcomings."

Other co-authors of the paper were doctoral student Srinivasa Raju Mantena, post-doctoral researchers Athilakshmi Kannan and Yong-Pil Cheon, and research scientist Quanxi Li, all of veterinary biosciences.

The National Institutes of Health funded the research, which was published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* in February. 🐾

groups of nematodes have been documented to infect red colobus and have the capacity to cause gastrointestinal problems that can be fatal.

Drs. Gillespie and Chapman sorted through nine potential factors, including physical and biological attributes.

They concluded that the degradation of the forest and human presence, as measured in

### The intensity of tree removal translates directly to parasite populations and the risk of infection of their hosts

stump density, strongly influenced the prevalence of parasitic nematodes. Infection risk, they reported also was higher in the fragment with the highest stump density than in the fragment with the lowest stump density.

"Our results provide evidence that an easily measured index such as the number of stumps in a given area can be used to predict the degree to which a fundamental ecological process—host-parasite dynamics—can be altered by human disturbance," Dr. Gillespie says. "We think that this pattern is likely to be common in disturbed areas and may represent an unrecognized threat for the conservation and management of various habitats."

Dr. Gillespie, who also holds appointments in the anthropology department and the Program in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Illinois, and Dr. Chapman, also a researcher for the Wildlife Conservation Society, were part of a team that last year reported that selective-logging practices in the region had changed the ecological balance for three primate species. The red-tailed guenon, they noted in the *Journal of Applied Ecology*, is still a primate in decline. They also reported high levels of parasitic infections in the guenons in the heavily logged areas.

The National Center for Environmental Research, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, National Science Foundation, Ford Foundation, and Wildlife Conservation Society supported the research. Permission to conduct the research was given by the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology and the Uganda Wildlife Authority. 🐾



Photo courtesy of Thomas Gillespie



## Research Projects Funded Between October 1, 2005, and March 31, 2006

- Graves TK, Riensche MR. Winn Feline Foundation, \$13,345, Control of Renal Secondary Hyperparathyroidism: A New Approach Using Calcimimetic Drugs.
- Kinsel MJ, Terio K. Office of Naval Research, \$156,959, Pathogen Detection and Characterization in Captive and Free-Ranging Marine Mammals.
- Maddox CW. Illinois Department of Agriculture, \$14,556, Enterococcus Fecalis Cytolysin Associated Adverse Effects Upon Swine Fertility.
- Morin DE. Illinois Department of Agriculture, \$16,290, Influence of Milking Frequency on Antibiotic Concentrations in the Milk of Dairy Cows Treated with an Intramammary Antibiotic.
- Stewart MC, Valli T. Illinois Department of Agriculture, \$22,390, Cellular Basis of Porcine Osteochondrosis.
- Terio K. Research Board, \$12,438, Piroplasmiasis in Serengeti Lions (*Panthera leo*): A Co-pathogen Determining Mortality During Canine Distemper Epidemics.
- Zuckermann FA. National Pork Board, \$106,452, A Study of the Feasibility of Using a Porcine Alveolar Macrophage Cell Line to Produce a PRRS Modified Live Virus Vaccine.
- Zuckermann FA, Goldberg, T. University of Minnesota, \$105,801, Integrated Control and Elimination of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Virus (PRRSV) in the U.S.

By Kim Marie Labak

**Dr. Karen Campbell** took an interest in dermatology early in her career: "I was collecting pictures of interesting dermatology cases even back in my veterinary student days," she confesses.

Now professor and head of the specialty medicine section in the Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine, she joined the College faculty in 1983 to practice, teach, and complete an alternative residency in dermatology under Dr. Erwin Small.

"Dr. Small was one of the founders of both the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the American College of Veterinary Dermatology and dedicated more than 35 years in service to the veterinary profession and the University of Illinois," notes Dr. Campbell.

Not only is Dr. Campbell the only board-certified dermatologist on faculty, she is also board certified in veterinary internal medicine. She has been supervising dermatology residents since 1989. Her teaching activities span the curriculum, from lectures to first- and second-year students on dermatology and internal medicine to a third-year elective in dermatology and supervision of fourth-year students on the clinical dermatology rotations.

Dr. Campbell received her DVM from the University of Missouri. She completed an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at Auburn University and an internal medicine residency and master's degree in clinical pathology at the University of Georgia before coming to Illinois.

"I like dermatology because it's hands-on, and dermatologic problems are visibly evident. Having an internal medicine background was really good for me going into dermatology, since the skin really serves as a marker for many internal diseases."

Dermatology deals with quality of life issues for owners as well as patients. "We tend not to think of dermatologic conditions being as critical to patients as heart disease or cancer, but a lot of animals are put to sleep due to recurrent infection, itchiness, or pain




Tom Schaeffges

that keeps them and their owners from sleeping. Sometimes owners just can't cope with a smelly, itchy, uncomfortable pet. If we help these animals and owners, that's when we get satisfaction from knowing we can make a difference."

Another satisfaction arises from the long-term conditions in her specialty: "Many of the dermatological disease we see here are not curable, but manageable, so I end up seeing some clients and patients for years and develop long-term relationships with them, which is very rewarding."

Dr. Campbell has cultivated a very full scholarly career as well. Her companion animal research projects have investigated the role of omega fatty acids in inflammation, and she has also recently conducted clinical trials assessing the effectiveness of topical products through measurements of skin moisture, trans-epidermal water loss, and other quantitative parameters. She has also combined her interests in internal medicine and dermatology with research projects investigating the effects of sulfonamide antibiotics on thyroid function in dogs.

She has published books for both students and pet owners. Her most recent book is *The Pet Lover's Guide to Cat & Dog Skin Diseases*, published by Elsevier. Last year she published *Companion Animals: Their Biology, Care, Health, and Management* (Prentice Hall), her second book co-written with her father, Dr. J. R. Campbell (a former dean of the College of ACES at the University of Illinois).

She has also edited two books popular with veterinary students: *Small Animal Dermatology Secrets* and the *Veterinary Clinics of North America's Dermatology*. 





## Dr. Andrews Completes a Decade of Service at Illinois

On May 1, 1996, Dr. John Andrews took the helm as director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory at the University of Illinois. When he retired on April 30, 10 years later, he left behind a legacy of increased visibility and improved service to the Illinois veterinary and agricultural communities.

Dr. Andrews earned his veterinary degree from Iowa

State University in Ames, where he worked at the Veterinary Medical Research Institute from the time he was an undergraduate through his third year of veterinary school.

After graduation, Dr. Andrews through a series of twists of fate and leaps of faith followed a rich and rewarding career path.

"It was just going to be a summer job because I intended to enlist in the Air Force," recalls Dr. Andrews of his first veterinary job, the \$800/month associate's position at the Los Angeles-based practice of a former veterinary college roommate.

"I packed everything I owned into the back of a '65 Mustang I bought with borrowed money and headed to California on the same day that Bobby Kennedy was shot in L.A. [June 5, 1968]," he says.

In California, Dr. Andrews encountered traffic gridlock—and his future wife, Judy, like him a native Iowan.

"It was a great experience," he concludes of his time in California.

The next March Dr. Andrews and his wife loaded up everything and moved to Michigan, sight unseen, so he could enroll in a clinical pathology training program at MSU. There he discovered he was really much more interested in anatomic pathology.

Before completing his master's degree he and his wife moved to Perry, Iowa, to start a family in their home state.

The next year Dr. Andrews accepted a position at the Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, which offered facilities and time to finish his master's. Except for two periods, this is where he worked from December 1970 until coming to Illinois in 1996.

The first exception was two years at the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he taught pathology and earned board certification in the American College of Veterinary Pathologists in the late 1970s.

Then in 1983 he took a sabbatical at Michigan State University to begin working on a PhD, which he continued pursuing in Iowa and completed in 1986.



Tom Schaeffges

At Iowa Dr. Andrews noted the dearth of professionals to fill positions in diagnostic medicine, infectious diseases, and production medicine and started a training program to meet that need. He takes great pride in the high caliber of the graduates of that program and the contributions they have made.

The day he accepted the offer to head the Illinois diagnostic laboratory is a vivid memory for Dr. Andrews.

"It was a cold, cold day in January," he says. "The temperatures were below zero, and snow was blowing and drifting. At three in the afternoon I was driving back to the lab from the National Animal Disease Center. I had to stop three times to scrape the ice off the *inside* of the car windows."

Illinois Dean Ted Valli, who had been urging Dr. Andrews to accept the job, called that day with a revised offer and the weather report that it was 50 degrees and sunny in Illinois. Dr. Andrews said yes.

Under Dr. Andrews's leadership, the Illinois diagnostic lab has

**"Our staff take pride in good results and high volume. We've quadrupled the caseload with the same staff."**

maintained its high level of precision while greatly improving turnaround time. Responsiveness to the needs of practitioners, combined with strides in computing and technology, led to many new efficiencies.

"Our staff take pride in good results and high volume," he says. "They've done a marvelous job. We've quadrupled the caseload with the same staff."

The lab has also expanded its role in wildlife disease surveillance, an area highlighted in the recent West Nile virus outbreak. Its Zoological Pathology Program, which provides diagnostic services to the Chicago-area zoos, aquarium, and forest preserve, has grown in reputation and service to become a premier program in the nation.

Dr. Andrews's service to the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians includes serving as president in 1991 and volunteering on accreditation site visit teams for 16 years. In 1998, he was recognized with the organization's highest honor, the E.P. Pope Memorial Award, and he has also been named a life member.

At the College, he received the Service Award in 1998 and the All-Around Excellence Award in 2003.

Dr. Andrews feels strongly about the importance of the teaching component of the diagnostic lab, which helps to produce practitioners with a good grasp of the role of diagnostic testing.

He also has a strong commitment to research, noting the interplay between the "real world" cases seen through the lab and the bench work of basic research.

"An excellent diagnostic lab must be affiliated with an excellent research facility," he says.

After retirement he moved to Grand Junction, Colo., to direct a small diagnostic lab there and to be closer to both sets of grandchildren. 🐾

The search for a new director of the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is still in progress. Dr. Wally Hoffmann, professor emeritus of pathobiology, has served as interim director since June 1.



## Dr. Gavin Meerdink Wore Many Hats in Teaching and Service

By Elana Schuster

Thirty years ago Dr. Gavin Meerdink was working at a private practice when the dean from his alma mater, Iowa State University, asked him to teach large animal internal medicine. Though he had not originally planned to step into academia, he took the job and found that he really appreciated the ability to spend more time on his cases.

"When you've got a lot of clients, it's difficult to do the kind of job you'd like to do on diagnostic work, and the diagnostic part of practice is what I always enjoyed the most," he says.

After teaching at two other universities, Dr. Meerdink eventually came to the College in 1989: "Illinois was like being back home and a great opportunity to do something for the lab."

For the past 16 years he has worn many hats at the College. As head of the clinical toxicology section at the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, he spent a majority of his time coordinating problem-solving efforts in diagnostic medicine. Through his appointment with the University of Illinois Extension service, he developed educational programs on beef cattle health and feed for producers and veterinarians. He also served as the director for the College's Research Farm.

Dr. Meerdink believes "finding the right people to tackle some of the more complex diagnostic testing regimens and watching that pay off" has been the most rewarding aspect of his tenure at the College.

In recognition of his contributions to diagnostic medicine, the American Association of Veterinary Laboratory Diagnosticians presented Dr. Meerdink with their highest award, the E.P. Pope Memorial Award, in 2002 and in 2005 he was honored with lifetime membership to the Association.

Dr. Meerdink advises veterinary students to keep an open mind to all of the different routes available.

"If you would have asked me when I was a senior student if I would do anything other than practice, I probably would've just laughed my way down the hall. But I think making the choice I did gave me the best of both worlds. I work with practitioners, deal with their problems, and have the opportunity to look into them a little deeper."

Since his retirement in December, Dr. Meerdink started a small firm specializing in consultation and investigation of animal disease and production, feed, and biosecurity related issues.

"That's what I enjoy, and I am very happy that I have the opportunity to continue to pursue it. It's something different all the time." 🐾



## Dr. Mike Tumbleson Looks Back on High-Flying Career

By Elana Schuster

The spring semester marked the end of a 20-year career at the College for Dr. M.E. "Mike" Tumbleson, a professor with a joint appointment in veterinary biosciences and agricultural engineering.

Growing up in a small town, Dr. Tumbleson says he "hitch-hiked" to college at the University of Minnesota and took advantage of every opportunity he could to get his PhD.

"My family didn't have much money, but there were opportunities," he says.

He advises future students to keep an open mind, network, and pursue every opportunity.

"Make sure you don't have blinders on and that you're looking at other things," he says. "If the door is open, take a look."

His career has encompassed work in South America and almost 20 years at the University of Missouri, but he has enjoyed most his return to the Big Ten at Illinois.

Dr. Tumbleson especially valued the opportunity to work with very talented people. He has worked with Nobel Laureates and with undergraduate students, but the highlight of his career has been working with PhD students and young professors at the College.

"They're students who have their own ideas and try new concepts. They slam me against the wall and say 'Can you answer this question?

Or what about this?' It has kept me running," he chuckles.

His research has investigated alcohol addiction, using the pig as a model; lipid metabolism and membrane transport; and the effects of Mycotoxins, in particular fumonisin, on large animals.

Dr. Tumbleson plans to continue

doing research in the coming years.

Dr. Tumbleson often spends his free time up in the air. Flying his airplane with students, professors, and friends has served as a classroom for communication, and he says laughter and communication matter most.

"We ought to be able to laugh at whatever we do, and if we aren't laughing we shouldn't be here." 🐾



Tom Schaeferges







### Dr. Martin Allen

Clinical Assistant Professor, Equine Medicine and Surgery, Veterinary Clinical Medicine

- DVM, Colorado State University, 1994
- MS, University of Illinois, 2001
- Residency (Surgery), University of Illinois, 2001

*Research interests:* The surgical treatment of orthopedic pathology; exercise-induced pulmonary hemorrhage; coffin joint; tendon and ligament injuries; reproductive surgery.

Before coming to the College for a master's degree and a surgical residency, Dr. Allen served as the state veterinarian for the Illinois State Racing Commission from 1998 to 2000. He has more than 10 years of experience as an equine veterinarian working in private practices throughout the country. Dr. Allen spent the past 2 years in practice at his clinic, Allen Equine Veterinary Care, in Ocala, Fla.



### Dr. Vincent Hsiao

Visiting Clinical Assistant Professor, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

- MVM, National Taiwan University, 1996
- Residency (Anatomic Pathology), University of Illinois, 2003
- Ph.D., University of Illinois, 2005

*Research interests:* Pathophysiology and signaling pathways of sphingolipids, especially their roles in fumonisins mycotoxicosis and tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  induced cardiovascular dysfunction.

After completing his veterinary degree, Dr. Hsiao worked at the Military Dog Center in Taiwan as the veterinarian responsible for preventive medicine, obstetrics, neonatal health, and basic training and supervision of soldiers responsible for military dog care. He came to the College for a residency in 1999.



### Dr. Kristen O'Dell-Anderson

Clinical Assistant Professor, Imaging/Radiation Therapy, Veterinary Clinical Medicine

- DVM, University of Missouri, 2001
- MS, University of Illinois, 2006
- Residency (Diagnostic Imaging), University of Illinois, 2006

*Research interests:* Clinical applications of alternative imaging modalities such as CT, MRI, and nuclear medicine.

Dr. O'Dell-Anderson attended the College of Agriculture at the University of Missouri for her undergraduate studies in Animal Science. She was accepted early into Missouri's College of Veterinary Medicine. After graduation she completed a 13-month rotating small animal internship at Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital in Denver, Colo. She practiced in rural Missouri for a year before entering the master's/residency program in diagnostic imaging at Illinois in 2003. Her master's work evaluated the use of contrast-enhanced CT for determining glomerular filtration rate in dogs.



### Dr. Julia Whittington

Clinical Assistant Professor, Small Animal Medicine-Exotics & Wildlife, Veterinary Clinical Medicine; Director of Wildlife Medical Clinic

- DVM, University of Illinois, 1997

*Research interests:* Blood parasitism in raptor species and implications as indicators of environmental or physiological stress; antibiotic resistance patterns found in wildlife populations; diseases of wildlife.

Dr. Whittington has a unique background: she spent 7 years as a police officer for the University of Illinois Police Department, during which time she completed her bachelor's degree here. Since finishing her DVM, Dr. Whittington has worked closely with the College as an adjunct professor from 1997 to 2001 and in a visiting position seeing exotics patients and overseeing the Wildlife Medical Clinic from 2001 to the present. 🐾

## Triumph at the Teaching Hospital, continued from page 3

Dr. Doug Owens took over and I spent a few days in the ICU. More blood tests! They gave me doses of calcium and vitamin D.

For three months my blood calcium level roller-coasted from too low to too high. Dr. Owens said I was a great patient—and my owners have a lot of patience—because it took a lot of visits, but finally in January my calcium got back to normal.

That's when I met Dr. Kenneth Keppel. He's specializing in dermatology, and my

owner wondered what could be done about my poor bald patches. Dr. Keppel said my problem could be Cushing's disease (another endocrine disorder) or it could just be a follicle disorder of unknown cause that sometimes affects Alaskan breeds like me.

My owner decided to see if the over-the-counter melatonin supplementation prescribed for the follicle disorder would work rather than do more tests for Cushing's.

You know what? It worked! After several weeks, I quit wearing the purple tee.

The last step was back with Dr. Allender. I had bladder stones (probably from having high calcium levels) that had to be surgically removed.

Today my hypothyroidism is under control, my calcium levels are normal, and my coat has mostly grown back. Dr. Eshelman says I look like a million bucks.

I hope I don't have to go back to the hospital, but if I do, I know I'll be in good hands. 🐾



## Class of 2006



## College Confers 134 Degrees, Certificates on Commencement Day 2006

Ninety-six graduates—70 women and 26 men—received DVM degrees from the College of Veterinary Medicine on May 14. About half from this class joined practices in Illinois and a large percentage—more than 20—are pursuing internships.

In addition, the College awarded 16 master's degrees, 8 PhDs, and 14 certificates of internship or residency.

Members of the Class of 2006 selected Dr. Anne Barger, pathobiology, to give the address. Dr. Thomas Graves, veterinary clinical medicine, gave the welcome.

Dr. J.B. Bruederle, president of the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association, offered greetings. ISVMA president-elect Dr. Craig Stevenson gave the ISVMA Award to valedictorian Tige Witsberger, while Dr. Gerald Pijanowski, associate dean for academic and student affairs, presented the Carrie McGreevy Award to salutatorian Claire Ojala.

After the hooding ceremony, Dean Herb Whiteley led the graduates in the Veterinarian's Oath. Dr. Nicholas Kelsey gave the response from the Class of 2006. 🐾

### MS and PhD Degrees, Internships, and Residencies

#### Department of Pathobiology Master of Science

Marie Elena Gorman  
Jessica Graves  
Bradley Long  
Daniele Nucera

#### Doctor of Philosophy

Georgina Cheng  
Julie Ann Clennon  
Clayton Green  
Shih-Hsuan Hsiao  
April Paulman  
Jo Ann Schmidt





**Department of Veterinary Biosciences***Master of Science*

Matthew Allender

Erica Lynn Deutscher

Kirsten Holthusen

Avenel Daphne Estelle Joseph

Valentina Merola

*Doctor of Philosophy*

Jamie Stark

**Department of Veterinary Clinical Medicine***Master of Science*

Rajashekar Gaddam

Jennifer Hess

Jennifer Marlatt

Terry Miller

Jesse Nagy

Kristen O'Dell-Anderson

Jill Wojciechowski

*Doctor of Philosophy*

Rosana Lopes

**Certificate of Internship***Small Animal Medicine*

Kevin Byl

Jessica Emerson

Tracey Haslitt

Melissa Hoffer

Lauren Reid

Christina Sandberg

Olya Smrkovski

Cary Sparkman

*Anesthesiology*

Rezsa Seddighi

**Certificate of Residency***Dentistry*

William Krug

*Emergency Critical Care*

Douglas Owens

*Oncology*

David Heller

Hugues Lacoste

*Small Animal Surgery*

Gregory Marsolais

## Donors Make a Difference for 173 Students at Annual Scholarships Program

Thanks to the generosity of many individuals and organizations, the College of Veterinary Medicine was able to present 173 awards to deserving students and faculty members at the annual awards and scholarships ceremony. The event took place on April 8.

More than \$220,000 was distributed to recognize and reward excellence and to alleviate students' financial burdens, allowing the students to concentrate on learning.

We especially thank our donors for their support and vision. The future of the veterinary profession is made stronger because of their commitment to education and learning.

Congratulations to our many student award winners!

### Five first-time awards were made in 2006:

#### Christina K. and David M. Heine Otto Award



This award was established in memorial of the Heine family's dachshund, Otto, who possessed an effervescent personality and received care at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. The award is available to fourth-year DVM students, interns, or residents

who exhibit exemplary compassion in their interactions with clients at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and have a strong interest in the human-animal bond. Mrs. Heine is shown at right with Dean Herb Whiteley.

#### Exceptional Care in Veterinary Medicine Scholarship



Richard and Deborah Bernardoni established this scholarship in recognition of the exceptional care provided for their current dogs, Annie, Chaser, and Jinx, and their prior dogs, Kelly and Corky. The Excep-

tional Care in Veterinary Medicine Scholarship is for fourth-year DVM students, interns, or residents who value their interactions with clients of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and have a strong interest in companion animal medicine. Mr. Bernardoni graduated from the University of Illinois in 1973 with a degree in finance. At the ceremony, the award was presented to Nicholas Kelsey by Dr. Roy Barnes, veterinary clinical medicine. Deborah and Richard Bernardoni were on hand to meet the recipient of their scholarship.

#### David F. and Margaret T. Grohne Scholarship Fund

This endowment was established by David and Margaret Grohne in honor of the excellent care given to their Labrador retriever Miner at the Veterinary



Teaching Hospital. This generous gift will provide a scholarship equal to about one half of the current in-state tuition for a veterinary student who demonstrates strong leadership qualities, maintains a 3.0/4.0 grade point average, and is a U.S. citizen. Derek Paul is shown receiving the award from presenter Dr. Petra Volmer, veterinary biosciences.

#### ISVMA Student Representative Scholarships

These awards are presented to each of the Illinois State




Veterinary Medical Association class representatives for their work and commitment. Shown with ISVMA executive director Peter Weber are recipients Justin Florey, Class of 2009, and Teresa Lehnhardt, Class of 2008.

*continued on next page*



## Cora E. and Lora M. Sims Scholarship

Cora E. Sims and her daughter, Lora M. Sims, self-described “longtime farmers,” established this endowment because of the College of Veterinary Medicine’s close ties to the farming community. Cora Sims received a bachelor’s degree in education from the University of Illinois in 1927. She died in September 1987. Her daughter died in May 2002. Both grew up in Illinois and spent their lives farming here. The scholarships, sponsored by the estate of Lora M. Sims, were awarded by the College for the first time last fall to help recruit eight top student candidates entering their first year of study. 

### George H. Alexander Memorial Scholarship

Amy Maddin

### American Animal Hospital Association Award

Nicholas Kelsey

### American Association of Feline Practitioners’ Student Award

Amy Jo Wolf

### American College of Veterinary Radiology Award

Christopher M. Couri

### American College of Veterinary Surgeons Award

Derrick Hall (Large Animal Award)  
Tige Witsberger (Small Animal Award)

### Bil-Jac Student Scholarship in Nutrition

Kitrina Wargo

### Dr. Loyd E. Boley Scholarship

Maureen Gutshall

### Dr. and Mrs. Wally Brandt Award

Cynthia Schlund

### Mary L. Brundage Scholarship

Nicholas Guedet  
Jonathan Hall

### Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Case Scholarship

Kerith Luchins

### Chicago Veterinary Medical Association President’s Scholastic Award

Dana Marsh

### Class of 1952 Food Animal Scholarship

Jason Wrage

### Class of 1983 Endowment Scholarship

Justin Allen

### Loren Lee Cluster Scholarship

Nicole McGee  
Kerry Risetto

### College of Veterinary Medicine Awards for Academic Excellence

#### Class of 2006

*First:* Tige Witsberger  
*Second:* Claire Ojala  
*Third:* Lyn Miller Wancket

#### Class of 2007

*First:* Kristina Kalivoda  
Katherine Rutherford

*Second:* Nicole McGee

*Third:* Erin O’Connor

#### Class of 2008

*First:* Daniel J. Tierney  
*Second:* Erin Long  
*Third:* Teresa Lehnhardt

#### Class of 2009

*First:* Michael DiCicco  
Christopher Ed  
Jennifer Hoffmann  
Aya Iwai  
Marjorie Koeppen  
Stacy Kostiuik  
Alysn Lilley  
Annie Lo  
Lauren Singleton  
*Second:* Megan Mongiovi  
Adam Ohms  
*Third:* Violet Kirk

### Lisa Coole Memorial Scholarship

Tamara Gossman-McArdle  
Magdalena Dominguez

### Dr. Richard E. Dierks Veterinary Alumni Scholarship

Cristina M. Hansen  
Christen Herriott  
Aya Iwai

### Dr. Joseph L. Dorner Award

Jocelyn J. Cooper

### Exceptional Care in Veterinary Medicine Scholarship

Nicholas Kelsey

### Dr. Walter and Mary Lou Fehrenbacher Scholarship

S. Chad Ely

### Alice H. Fruit Memorial Award

Daniel J. Tierney

### David F. and Margaret T. Grohne Scholarship

Derek Paul

### Anna M. Gulick Scholarship

Matthew Bauer

### Stephen P. and Denyse L. Hadley Christian Veterinary Mission Scholarship

Sara Schultz  
Devon Townsend

### Dr. Allan H. Hart Award

Dana Marsh

### Dr. and Mrs. Lloyd Helper Veterinary Student and Faculty Collegiality Award

Jeremiah Bieszczak  
Dr. Anthony Olouch

### Hill’s Buddy Award

Tige Witsberger

### Hill’s Student Feeding Program Scholarship

Erin Cunningham  
Leslie Gellatly  
Cristina M. Hansen  
Kathleen Hennessy  
Kenneth McGowan  
Karen Ochonicky  
Claire Ojala  
Lynne White

### Dr. H. Preston Hoskins Award

Lyn Miller Wancket

### ISVMA Student Representative Scholarship

Jamie C. Youngs, Class of 2006  
Susan Heatter, Class of 2007  
Teresa Lehnhardt, Class of 2008  
Justin Florey, Class of 2009

### Illinois Reptile and Amphibian Medicine Scholarship

Mary Lee

### Illinois Veterinary Medical Alumni Association Award

Anthony Cappa

### Lily Ireland Scholarship

Tige Witsberger

### Professor Virginia R. Ivens Scholarship

Magdalena Dominguez

### Jester Scholarship in Veterinary Medicine

Paul Augustine  
Justin W. Church

### Kankakee River Valley Kennel Club Scholarship

Amanda Kroll

### Dr. Edward C. Khuen Memorial Award

John F. Green

### Dr. Anthony T. Kremer Scholarship for Small Animal Surgery

Michael Meyers

### Dr. Vaylord D. Ladwig Memorial Scholarship

Clayton Johnson

### Lake County Humane Society Scholarship

Peter Plescia

### Bill Lang Wildlife Memorial Award

Toni Kwan

### Eve Larocca Award

Jason Long

### Patricia Lawrence Memorial Scholarship

Ann J. Johnson

### Tanner Leong Memorial Scholarship

Lyn Miller Wancket

### Dr. Roger P. Link Scholarship

Kimberly Boudreau

### Dr. Heidi Lott Memorial Award

Greg Anderson

### Dr. William Magrane Clinical Ophthalmology Award

Tige Witsberger

### Dr. Patrick C. Matchette Scholarship

Kimberly Bielarczyk





**Mattoon Kennel Club Award**

Nedra Barksdale

**Dr. and Mrs. David McConnell Scholarship**

Teresa Lehnhardt

**McLaughlin Family Scholarship**

Erin O'Connor

**Dr. Beryl D. and Renee Mell Award**

Sandra Manfra

John F. Green

**Merck Veterinary Manual Award**

Stephanie Bedard

Anthony Cappa

Molly Carpenter

Christopher M. Couri

S. Chad Ely

Stephanie King

Dana Marsh

Lyn Miller Wancket

Claire Ojala

Rebecca Rader

Suzanne Rau

Lucas Stahlheber

Allen Walter

Tige Witsberger

**Jerrold and Marian Michaels Scholarship**

Catherine Wenkel

**Dr. Christopher Moberly Scholarship**

James Park

**Tanner and Holly Munday Scholarship**

Anthony Cappa

**Nestlé Purina Pet Care Scholarship**

Erin O'Connor

**North American Veterinary Conference Student Representative Scholarship**

Elena Young Behnke

**Omega Tau Sigma Advisor's Scholarship**

Elizabeth Manna

**Christine K. and David M. Heine Otto Award**

Stephanie King

**Pfizer Small Animal Clinic Proficiency Award**

Tige Witsberger

**Pfizer Veterinary Specialty Team Awards**

Christopher M. Couri

Claire Ojala

Daniel C. Skirvin

**Pfizer Veterinary Student Award**

Stacey Walk

**Severn Provus and Birdell Eck Provus Scholarship**

Doreen Nicole Turner

**Dr. J. Wayne Rehn Scholarship**

Shannon Melliére

**Charles Renegar Family Scholarship**

Amanda Dyal

**Dr. Harry Reynolds Pathology Award**

Jamie Jones

**Dr. J.E. Salsbury Scholarship**

Kristin Amos

Molly Comiskey

Jami Fourez

Kathleen Kersey

Quinn King

Judilee C. Marrow

Stephanie Nelson

Caroline Peese

Katherine Rutherford

Christina Watson

**Dr. Jesse Sampson Award**

Erika Stapp

**Sandrik Family Scholarship**

Kristina Kalivoda

**Simmons & Associates Educational Trust Fund Award**

Kelli L. Kramer

**Lora and Cora Sims Dean's Scholarship**

Kendall Anderson

Emily Eaton

Stephanie Kemp

Annie Lo

Joshua Locher

Anne Love

Shannon Melliére

Elizabeth Wolf

**Dr. Erwin Small Scholarships**

Kelli Kramer

Alix Partnow

Wendy Probst

Katie Quigley

**Small Animal Executive Veterinary Program Award**

Amanda Dyal

**Sonata and Dvorak Behavioral Medicine Award**

Jessica Sprague

**Sophie's and Gypsy's Golden Heart Award**

Anthony Cappa

**Southern Illinois Veterinary Medical Association Scholarship**

Jean Czernski

Collin Rhine

Rebecca Ruemmler

**Special Student Award**

Christina J. Hansen

**Dr. Donald W. Spencer Memorial Scholarship**

Jennifer Blake

**Stadheim Foundation Veterinary Scholarship**

Stephanie Krein

**Dr. Thomas B. Steffen Scholarship**

Anthony Cappa

**Students for Equal Access to Learning Scholarship**

Lisa Cieply

Stephanie Schoepfer-Grosskurth

**Carl and Libbie Thetford Scholarship**

David Murdach

Edith Tomlinson Award

Elizabeth Manna

**VCA Animal Hospitals Student Scholarship**

Laura Peters

**Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Award**

Kandice Norrell

**Kathleen Werner Memorial Scholarship**

Tracy Borst

**Western Veterinary Conference Scholarship**

Kitrina Wargo

**Wheaton Kennel Club Scholarship**

Kimberly Bielarczyk

**Kenneth T. and Betty L. Wright Scholarship**

Clayton Johnson

**Phi Zeta Research Day, continued from page 5**

**Carla Morrow, S Park, M Mukai, B Katzenellenbogen, R Hess.** Male reproductive abnormalities in repressor of estrogen receptor activity (REA) heterozygous knockout mice

**Motoko Mukai, P Cooke, S Tischkau.** Adverse effects of dioxins on the biological clock

**Elizabeth Rawson, M Stewart, A Stewart.** Regulation of lubricin/SZP expression in articular chondrocytes

**Kahrma Wagner, D Griffon, M Thomas, D Schaeffer, K Schultz.** Arthroscopic measurement of radio-ulnar incongruence in Labrador retrievers

**Lyn Wancket, J Davis, B Guenther, G Woznicki, B Johnson, B Wahlstrand, R Maronpot.** Monitoring growth of DEN-induced mouse liver tumors using magnetic resonance microscopy (MRM)

**Matt Wuchter, M Stewart, E Caporali, T Kuykendall.** Murine epiphyseal chondrocytes for genetic studies of chondrocyte biology

**Jacqueline Wypij, T Fan, LP de Lorimier, I Sprandel, R Fredrickson.** Investigating anti-neoplastic effects of zoledronate in a feline oral squamous cell carcinoma cell line

**Angela Yates, A Stewart, A Michalow, M Stewart.** Autogenous cartilage enhances chondrogenesis of equine mesenchymal stem cells



**Dr. Gordon Baker**, professor emeritus in veterinary clinical medicine, was invited to present four lectures on dental and head surgery at the 2006 Voorjaarsdagen Conference in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, in April.

**Dr. Larry Firkins**, public engagement, traveled to China for 10 days in March and April and for two weeks in May to speak at the Chinese Advanced Swine Production Seminars. He has made five trips to China since 2000 on behalf of the American Soybean Association, whose biggest customer is China.

Dr. Firkins also spoke at Purdue University and Iowa State University in April. In June he spoke at the Advanced

Swine Production Technology Course in Urbana, and he spoke at the American Veterinary Medical Association convention in Hawaii in July.

**Dr. Dominique Griffon**, veterinary clinical medicine, was awarded \$155,000 from the Beckman Institute to investigate “nanofibrous scaffolds for cartilage engineering.” Dr. Griffon was recently appointed as a Beckman Institute affiliate. She is completing her clinical project on cruciate ligament disease in Labrador Retrievers, with openings left for normal dogs, and will soon be starting a clinical trial evaluating arthroscopy for diagnosis of radioulnar incongruence in dogs with elbow dysplasia.

**Dr. Wanda Haschek-Hock**, pathobiology, delivered a series of two-day workshops on respiratory pathology in April and May for the Australian Animal Pathology Standards Program. She presented throughout the country, including in Brisbane, Darwin, Sydney, Melbourne, Launceston, Adelaide, and Perth. The workshops incorporated a

review of the pathology of the respiratory system in large and small animals, birds and lab animals.

**Dr. Rex Hess**, veterinary biosciences, was invited to speak on estrogens, xenoestrogens, and their impact on the male reproductive system at University Campus Zurich-Irchel, Winterthurerstr, Switzerland and the University of Lausanne, Dorigny, Switzerland. He also spoke at an NIH contract lab in Maryland in February.

He was also invited to contribute two chapters to *Sertoli Cell Biology*, a text honoring Dr. Lonnie Russell, a former professor at Southern Illinois University Medical School.

**Dr. Yvette Johnson**, veterinary clinical medicine, spoke on avian influenza at the Linking Illini with a General Appreciation for Science in the Environment (LIGASE) Seminar. She and **Dr. John Herrmann**, also veterinary clinical medicine, responded to many media inquiries about the disease and participated in the College-sponsored panels throughout Illinois (see page 4).

**Daniel Lewart**, senior research programmer, was invited to be a part of the Technical/Programming Panel at the campus’s Seventh Annual Webmasters Forum, held in April.

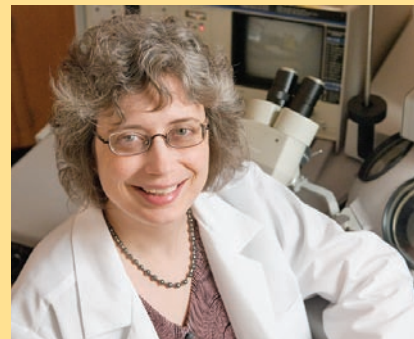
**Dr. Allan Paul**, associate dean of public engagement, spoke at a meeting of the Rio Grande Valley Veterinary Medical Association in Harlingen, Texas, in March.

**Dr. Susan Schantz**, veterinary biosciences, was named a University Scholar, one of the highest faculty honors available. She was awarded \$10,000 to enhance her academic career and was nominated by her peers for her dedication to research and students.

**Dr. H. Fred Troutt**, veterinary clinical medicine, was elected to chair the American Veterinary Medical Association Council on Education for the 2006-07 session of the Council.

**Dr. Eric Vimr**, pathobiology, spoke at the dedication of a DNA wind sculpture at Waubonsie Valley High School in Aurora, Ill., in May. He has for several years hosted students from that school in his laboratory during their weeklong “Biotech Bus” trip each spring.

**Dr. Humphrey Yao**, veterinary biosciences, was invited to visit the Institute of Zoology at National Taiwan University (NTU) in Taipei. While in Taiwan he spoke and also discussed establishing a summer exchange program for graduate students at the University of Illinois and NTU.



Brian Stauffer

**Lou Ann Miller**, electron microscope technologist IV, was one of nine staff employees honored with the Chancellor’s Distinguished Staff Award in April. The award recognizes exceptional performance and includes a \$2,000 honorarium. Miller, who has worked for the College for almost 18 years, runs the Center for Microscopic Imaging.



**Dr. Thomas Graves**, veterinary clinical medicine, was selected by fourth-year veterinary students to receive the Carl J. Norden-Pfizer Distinguished Teacher Award. This honor recognizes outstanding teaching ability as well as dedication, character, and leadership qualities and contributions to the advancement of the profession. Dr. Graves joined the faculty in 2002. The Norden award is sponsored by Pfizer Animal Health.






# Students

The **Student Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society** raised more than \$800 to purchase a bulletproof vest for Scooby, a canine officer working in Urbana, through the non-profit Illinois Vest-A-Dog program.

The Illinois chapter of the **International Veterinary Students' Association** received a \$500 award from the IVSA Student Relations Committee. Though the chapter is only three years old, IVSA President **Kate McNamara**, Class of 2008, says they received the award based on the chapter's history, achievement, and future plans.

**Lauren Markovic**, Class of 2009, was selected from a national pool of 70 students to participate in the Veterinary Student Employment


Program. Over the summer she will receive career-related work experience under the supervision of a veterinarian with the Public Health Agency of the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service. **Jacob Pruemmer**, also Class of 2009, was selected as an alternate.

**Jessica Lyons Sprague**, Class of 2008, was selected as the University of Illinois candidate for the USDA Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service's 2006 Smith-Kilborne Program. The program, conducted at Cornell University and the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, combines presentations and laboratory experiences to "acquaint veterinary students with various foreign animal diseases which potentially threaten our domestic animal population." 

## Open House Showcases Diversity of Veterinary Profession

Thousands of visitors attended the April 1 Open House of the College of Veterinary Medicine. First- through third-year veterinary students planned and hosted an exciting event that offered fun and educational activities for all ages.

Exhibits new this year included one highlighting the role veterinarians play in the public health arena and fun skits put on by the Veterinary Student Outreach Program to illustrate the diversity of veterinary careers.

Our generous event sponsors (see the inside back cover), along with additional contributions from the Chicago Veterinary Medical Association and the College of Veterinary Medicine, make Open House possible. 



Nick Mann



Chris Beuy

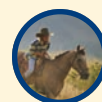
Student organizers of Open House were (from left, back to front): Kelli Stewart, Lauren Markovic, Diana Burr, Laura Cregar, Edwina Witkowski, Jim Park, Devon Townsend, Tamara Gossman, Jennifer Asher, Patricia Ho, Katharine Ho, and Brooke Nitzkin.



Nick Mann



Nick Mann



# Intentional Acts of Kindness

Years ago we heard about “random acts of kindness.” Today I ask you to consider your contribution back to the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine and to the veterinary profession as “*intentional* acts of kindness.”

Veterinarians are committed to many practice areas that improve the lives of animals and people: long-term care of companion animals, the establishment of wild-life rehabilitation, the well-being and development of healthy livestock, and so forth. These aspects of the profession involve the same altruistic outlook as volunteerism.

While some people at the College and in organized veterinary medicine are paid to serve the profession, their success depends on volunteers like us.

“Intentional acts of kindness” from alumni members who care about the success of students can have a lasting impact. I recall my struggle and frustrations as a student grappling with a challenging curriculum. Veterinarians who had a good career path already in place, who enjoyed the profession, were a positive example for me during school, spurring me to push myself through the challenges of class work.

Working through the College's Office of Academic and Student Affairs as mentors,

we alumni can connect the student population with the practicing profession, giving encouragement and positive reinforcement.

As alumni we can also have an important role in attracting young people to the profession. We know that interest in veterinary medicine begins at an early age. I challenge you to reach out to young people throughout your community. Your positive influence further improves the pool of prospective students and strengthens the profession.

Many veterinarians are successful volunteers. We give awards every year to those who have made outstanding contributions within their communities and throughout our profession. As we identify the individuals who will be so honored by our alumni association and College at Fall Conference in September, I invite you to assess your own contributions and find new ways to commit “intentional acts of kindness.”

—William L. Hollis, DVM  
President

Illinois Veterinary Medical Alumni Association



On May 19, the board of the **Illinois Veterinary Medical Alumni Association** became the very first group to hold a meeting in the new Alice Campbell Alumni Center on the Urbana campus. Attending were: (*seated, from left*) Dr. Anne Barger ('96); Dr. Bill Hollis ('96), president; Dr. Sarah Probst-Miller ('01); Dr. Allan Paul ('77), executive secretary/treasurer; (*standing, from left*) Brenda Betts, assistant dean for advancement; Dr. Mike Biehl ('83), director of the Veterinary Teaching Hospital; Dr. Bill Augustine ('75); Dr. Roger Dupuis ('71); and Jim Pound, associate director for development.

## New Alumni Association Benefit: Online Library Access


Alumni Association members now have online access to more than 4,000 magazines, newspapers, periodicals, scientific and professional journals and trade publications. The database, ProQuest/ABI-INFORM Complete, includes current and archived issues in full text and/or abstract versions.

Users can perform basic and advanced queries on such periodicals as the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News &*

*World Report*, and *Forbes*, as well as specialty publications.

This new benefit extends to alumni living in all 50 states and more than 125 countries services that had been available only to faculty, staff and students.

To access this service visit [www.uiaa.org/proquest](http://www.uiaa.org/proquest).

To join the Alumni Association, use the form on page 22. 





## Alumni Spotlight on...

# Dr. Andrew Dahlem

By Sarah Dowling

Dr. Andrew Dahlem was working as a registered animal health technician for a small animal practice in Ohio when he met someone who would change the course of his career more than once.

Today Dr. Dahlem is vice president of Toxicology, Drug Disposition, Pharmacokinetics and Lilly Research Laboratories (Europe), providing executive oversight throughout the drug discovery process and working closely with fellow toxicologists to assess the pre-clinical safety of these compounds.

From 1975 to 1980, he worked for Dr. Val Beasley, professor of veterinary biosciences, who at that time was in veterinary practice at The Old Troy Pike Veterinary Clinic in Dayton, Ohio. With the encouragement of Dr. Beasley, Dr. Dahlem returned to his schooling and in 1982 earned a bachelor's degree in zoology with an emphasis in wildlife biology at The Ohio State University.

Then for several years he worked in a field almost unrelated to his major: he was a chemist for a company that performed emergency drug testing on samples from humans to dogs. While at this job Dr. Dahlem unexpectedly came across an article by Dr. Beasley on the subject of toxicology, which in turn sparked Dr. Dahlem to pursue a PhD in toxicology at the University of Illinois.

"One of the most important lessons that Dr. Beasley taught me was to work hard for a purpose," says Dr. Dahlem.

After he left the College, his purpose became to use his education to discover medicines that will meet human and veterinary needs.

"When graduating with my PhD I had originally pictured myself working directly to discover the chemicals and compounds that lead to development of new or improved medicines," he says. "By making medicines we, as scientists, are meeting the needs of humans and animals around the world, and it was through hands-on involvement in this process that I wished to make an impact."

However, when the opportunity arose to move into an administrative position as the head of biochemical toxicology, he accepted.

"I realized that through this position I would be able to have a broader impact on the development and discovery of medicine than I could have ever had with my own two hands," says Dr. Dahlem.

In looking back, Dr. Dahlem credits the spirit of collaboration he learned at the College with his career success.

"As graduate students we were encouraged to interact with different departments and combine different sciences and backgrounds in order


**When doctoral students graduate from this College, their experiences here have prepared them to go toe-to-toe with the world experts in their field.**



Photo courtesy of Eli Lilly

to solve problems," he says. "The philosophy of integration and collaboration is one of the most crucial parts of the drug discovery process."

For several years Dr. Dahlem has served as an adjunct professor for the College of Veterinary Medicine; he returns to the University to lecture periodically. After having such a positive experience here at the College during his years as a graduate student, he finds that this is a way to give back to the College and have an influence on students who will one day be working alongside him.

"With 17 years of experience under my belt, I look back and realize that each faculty member emphasizes the philosophy of integration, which allows their students—myself included—to develop as scientific and creative individuals," says Dr. Dahlem. "When doctoral students graduate from this College, their experiences here have prepared them to go toe-to-toe with the world experts in their field." 

## Pharm/Tox Alumni, We Want You!

Are you an alum of the College's pharmacology or toxicology graduate programs? We are looking for you! Please complete the online survey at: [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vb/](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vb/).



**Dr. Joseph DiPietro** (IL DVM '76, IL MS '80) was named the vice president for agriculture at the University of Tennessee in February after serving more than 8 years as dean of the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine.

In his new position Dr. DiPietro oversees the operations of the UT Institute of Agriculture, which includes the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station, and UT Extension.

Dr. DiPietro had previously served as the associate dean for research and assistant director of agricultural experiment station at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. He has also conducted research on the epidemiology, control, and treatment of parasitic diseases of horses, cattle, and swine.

**Dr. Bob Arther** (PhD '78), who has worked with Bayer HealthCare, Shawnee Mission, Kan., for the past 26 years, was awarded the Otto Bayer Medal on March 10 in Leverkusen, Germany.

This bi-annual award was presented to five recipients selected from 350 Bayer companies and more than 93,000 employees worldwide. The award was presented in recognition for the invention and development of Advocate®, a multipurpose pharmaceutical product that prevents and treats parasites of dogs and cats. Advocate has been approved for use by veterinarians in Australia, Canada and Europe.

Dr. Arther is currently manager of parasitology and entomology in the Bayer Animal Health clinical development group. During his career with Bayer he has served as the development team leader for many notable products including Advantage®, K9 Advantix™, Cylence®, and Drontal®. He and his team were previous recipients of the Bayer Presidential



Achievement Award for the development of CheckMite™ Plus, a product for the treatment of parasitic mites on honey bees.

**Dr. Thomas Rosol** (IL DVM '81), dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University, was recently one of six OSU faculty members recognized as a University Distinguished Scholar. The award comes with a \$3,000 honorarium and a \$20,000 research grant. Dr. Rosol and his laboratory investigate mouse models of cancer and are specifically interested in the pathogenesis of bone metastasis.



**Dr. Gregg BeVier** (IL DVM '82, IL MS '77), a managing member of Global Agribusiness Partners, LLC, delivered the Howard Dunne Memorial Lecture at the 2006 annual meeting of the American Association of Swine Veterinarians. He serves on the Dean's Advisory Council for the College of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Illinois and received the college's Distinguished Alumni Award in 2004. He has an extensive background in livestock genetics, animal health, and integrated livestock production operations.

**Dr. Robert Radasch** (IL DVM '84, IA MS '88) received the 2006 Texas Veterinary Specialist of the Year award from the Texas Veterinary Medical Association. He received the award in recognition of his numerous contributions to the profession, including over 80 scientific presentations given at local, state, national, and international veterinary conferences, as well as authoring over 25 journal articles, or book chapters pertaining to small animal surgery. Dr. Radasch is director of surgery at the Dallas Veterinary Surgical Center, operating from four referral hospitals located throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

**Dr. Rand Wachsstock** (IL DVM '84), owner of The Regional Veterinary Referral Center in Springfield, Va., was recently appointed to the

Virginia State Radiological Advisory Board by Gov. Mark Warner.

His practice has expanded to over 9,500 square feet and is the only facility in that region to offer an on-site helical CAT scan service, radiation therapy via a linear accelerator, and board-certified specialists in nine areas.

With Dr. David S. Herring, he founded Radiocat, a veterinary practice dedicated exclusively to the care and treatment of feline hyperthyroidism. Radiocat has practice locations in more than a dozen states and has successfully treated over 22,000 cats. Dr. Wachsstock and his wife, Paula, have three children, Joseph, Aaron, and Aliya, and one granddaughter, Adeline.

**Dr. Robin Downing** (IL DVM '86), hospital director of Windsor (Colo.) Veterinary Clinic, PC, was recently awarded the Diplomate credential in Pain Management by the American Academy of Pain Management. Dr. Downing is the President of the International Veterinary Academy of Pain Management, an organization dedicated to the delivery of pain management to animals. Dr. Downing has received multiple honors during her veterinary career including the Woman Veterinarian of the Year in 1996, the Animal Welfare and Humane Ethics Award in 2000, and the Excellence in Small Animal Care Award (Veterinarian of the Year) from the World Small Animal Veterinary Association in 2001.

**Dr. Greg Daniel** (IL MS '88), professor of radiology and director of radiological services at the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine, has received the Tennessee Veterinary Medical Association's Outstanding Faculty Member of the Year award, presented for exceptional contributions to the profession, academic instruction, and the inspiration of veterinary students.

Dr. Daniel earned a DVM degree at Auburn University and completed a master's degree and residency in radiology at the University of Illinois in 1988. He served as president of the American College of Veterinary Radiology in 2004. He has received many other awards for teaching, research, and service.







**Dr. Georgianne Ludwig** (IL DVM '93), shown with AAHA past-president Dr. Daniel Aja, received the Nestlé Purina Petcare Award at the American Animal Hospital Association's yearly conference in Long Beach, Calif., in March. This award is given to an AAHA-member veterinarian in recognition of outstanding efforts to positively influence the lives of animals and people. Dr. Ludwig is the hospital director of Lombard Veterinary Hospital in suburban Chicago. In addition to being active in the Illinois State and Chicago Veterinary Medical Associations, she serves as the interim administrator for the DuPage County Animal Care and Control and chairs its advisory board.

**Dr. Lydia Gray** (IL DVM '94) has joined SmartPak Equine as medical director and staff veterinarian. In this newly created position, Dr. Gray will help to direct SmartCare™, SmartPak's new veterinary partnership program, provide technical support, direct research and development, and enhance existing nutrition educational programs for both staff and customers. Previously, Dr. Gray was executive director of the Illinois-based Hooved Animal Humane Society.

**Dr. Cheryl Shevy** (IL DVM '95) recently took a position with Banfield, The Pet Hospital, the nation's largest private veterinary practice. Dr. Shevy is currently practicing in Meridian, Idaho. 🐾

**Dr. Darrell Jessen** (IL DVM '55), of Girard, Ill., died on November 30, 2005. He was born in Hennepin, Ill. In 1957 he opened a private practice in Girard, where he practiced for 48 years. Dr. Jessen was a lifetime member of the Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association and served on the judicial and ethics committees. He was also a 50-year member of the American Veterinary Medical Association and was involved in many civic organizations.

**Dr. Clifford Loomis** (IL DVM '52), of Ottawa, Ill., died on June 7, 2006. He had owned the Loomis Veterinary Clinic for 38 years, retiring in 1990. He also served as the county animal control administrator for 16 years. During World War II, he served as a major in the U.S. Army.

**Dr. Walter Zuschlag** (IL DVM '54) died on April 23, 2006. He had retired as the director of the Worth Animal Hospital in Palos Hills, Ill., and was living in Tyron, N.C., at the time of his death. Memorial contributions to the Illinois Veterinary Medical Foundation will be used for the creation of a veterinary heritage museum.

*The following notices were taken from the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association:*

**Dr. Linda Cesnauskas** (IL DVM '85), former medical director of VCA Worth Animal Hospital in Palos Hills, Ill., died December 8, 2005.

**Dr. Barbara Deeb** (IL DVM '63), of Allpet Veterinary Clinic in Seattle, died on May 9, 2005. Dr. Deeb had served on the Comparative Medicine faculty at the University of Washington and had practiced and taught in Beirut, Lebanon, for many years.

**Dr. Robert Reschke** (IL DVM '88), owner of WillowGrove Pet Clinic in Willowbrook, Ill., died May 11, 2005. His wife, Dr. Barbara Hanek-Reschke, is a 1990 graduate of the College.

**Dr. Robert Schmidt** (IL DVM '63), of Frederick, Md., died December 14, 2005. A veteran of World War II, he had worked for the Food and Drug Administration, Department of Defense, Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Agriculture.

**Dr. Lewis Thomas** (IL DVM '71), of Henderson, Nev., died August 29, 2005. He had served as director of the West Virginia Department of Agriculture's Animal Health Division and as state veterinarian for more than 30 years.

*Gifts in memory of a classmate or friend may be made to the Veterinary Medicine Achievement Fund or Class Endowment Fund. For more information, please see the form at the end of this publication.* 🐾

## Alumni, Phone Home!

Using your mobile device you can now quickly access news, weather, sports, directory services, and much more from the Urbana campus of the University of Illinois. When you navigate to the home page at [www.uiuc.edu](http://www.uiuc.edu) using a Treo, BlackBerry, Pocket PC, or smart cell phone, you will be automatically redirected to the campus mobile site.

To preview "UI Mobile" from a computer, see [www.uiuc2go.com](http://www.uiuc2go.com). 🐾



# Alumni Speak to Students on Animal Abuse Issues

A panel discussion on animal abuse on March 30 helped students learn how to identify, approach, and report animal abuse and understand how animal cruelty investigations are carried out. Two graduates of the College were among the panelists who shared their personal experiences.

**Dr. Sally Foote** ('84), of Okaw Veterinary Clinic in Tuscola, Ill. (shown at center in photo), has served as county veterinarian and has long been active in rescue and humane efforts. She offered her insights into approaching clients and handling tough situations in a clinic setting.

**Dr. Jennifer Stone** ('04), veterinarian for the Champaign County Humane Society, described animals that she has encountered in her work at the shelter. Dr. Stone oversees fourth-year veterinary student rotations at the humane society and lectures at the College.

Also on hand were **Jason Smith**, executive director CCHS and a certified Illinois State Animal Cruelty Investigator; **Chelsea Angelo**,




Tom Schaeffges

an animal control officer from Urbana, Ill.; and **Teresa Miles**, director of A Woman's Place, a shelter for victims of domestic violence.

The talk was organized by A Pet's Place, a student-run program that helps victims of domestic violence by providing a confidential, safe, and free shelter for pets of families staying in local women's shelters.

Veterinary students Katie Quigley and Jennifer Koranda, co-directors of A Pet's Place, led an effort in April to raise awareness among local veterinarians of the connection between


animal abuse and domestic violence and to encourage them to post information in their clinic about A Pet's Place and about local women's shelters.

Domestic violence shelters do not allow pets due to public health regulations. Women who fear for the safety of pets left behind may be less likely to leave an abusive situation. 

Join using this form and a greater portion of your dues goes to the Veterinary Medical chapter.


**Welcome to the University of Illinois Alumni Association.**

Your membership is helping build an even greater University alumni network. We hope you will become involved in the Association's many activities and take advantage of the growing number of exclusive member benefits.

  
**Loren R. Taylor**  
President and CEO

Please clip and mail this application with your check or credit card authorization to:

University of Illinois  
Alumni Association  
1401 W. Green St., Suite 227  
Urbana, Illinois 61801


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**SELECT YOUR MEMBERSHIP OPTION AND PAYMENT METHOD**

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**Life Membership**

☐ Single \$750 ☐ Joint\* \$1,000

☐ Single, Senior Alumni\*\*\* \$375 ☐ Joint, Senior Alumni\*\*\* \$500

☐ Check here if you would like information on other payment plans.

Membership dues include \$12 per year for a subscription to *Illinois Alumni* magazine.

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**JOINT MEMBER INFORMATION**

If you have selected a joint membership, please provide the following for the joint member:

Joint Member Name \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_ University of Illinois graduate? ☐ No ☐ Yes

Relationship to Member (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Diploma (if different from above) \_\_\_\_\_

\* Joint members are two persons living at the same address who receive one copy of each issue of the alumni magazine and Alumni Association, college and department mailings.

\*\* Currently enrolled as a University of Illinois student or earned a University of Illinois degree within the past three years.

\*\*\* Must be age 65 or older or have graduated from the University of Illinois 40 or more years ago. In the case of joint memberships, one of the joint members must meet this criteria.

UD29





# Meet The Newest Member of the Illinois Veterinary Advancement Team

By Brenda K. Betts

Greetings from Urbana! I'm so pleased to be part of the team at the College of Veterinary Medicine.

As some of you may know, I started as the assistant dean for advancement here at the beginning of March, after spending 25 years at Michigan State University. For the past 15 years I worked in development and alumni relations, most recently as the director of development for the College of Communication Arts and Sciences. I have a bachelor's degree in marketing and a master's degree in public relations, both from Michigan State.

While this move represents a big change in my life after 25 years in East Lansing, I was attracted to the position at Illinois for several reasons: I believe in the land-grant mission; I love Big Ten sports; and Urbana is close enough to Michigan that I can easily visit family and friends.

But the biggest factor in my decision was the opportunity to work for the College of Veterinary Medicine. The dedication of the faculty, staff and students is inspiring. I have great respect for the veterinary profession and a keen appreciation for the human-animal bond.

As a child, I loved animals. The best part of every summer was spending time on my grandparents' farm, helping milk cows and care for the other animals. During the past 15 years, I was involved in the leadership at Capital Area Humane Society in Lansing, Mich. My key accomplishments there included working in humane education and implementing a cruelty investigation program in the community.

I also wanted to come to Illinois because this is an exciting time for the College, full of changes and opportunity. The College's strategic plan and facilities plan chart a pathway to making Illinois one of the premiere veterinary institutions in the nation. New leadership in our departments, teaching hospital, and diagnostic laboratory are building on the

tradition of excellence established by previous leaders. A curriculum review currently under way by the faculty will ensure that students are effectively and efficiently gaining the vital skills and knowledge needed by new veterinary practitioners. Research advances happening

**I wanted to come to Illinois because this is an exciting time for the College, full of changes and opportunity.**

here will improve the quality of life for both animals and humans.

The support and involvement of you, our alumni and friends, constitutes another tremendous asset that will ensure the success of the College.


Alumni are helping in many ways: mentoring current veterinary students, reaching out to elementary and high school students in their communities to raise awareness of the veterinary profession, providing internship opportunities, participating in the alumni association, and, of course, making financial contributions. Through the generosity of donors like you, more than \$220,000 in awards and scholarships was presented in April to 173 outstanding students and faculty members.



Tom Schaeffges

Brenda and her dog, Cassie, moved to Champaign in March.

This college gives us all much to be proud of and to aspire to. I'm pleased to be a part of the team that will move the College toward its vision as a leader in veterinary and biomedical education, research, and public outreach.

I have met so many wonderful alumni and friends here that the College already seems like home. I hope for an opportunity to meet each of you soon. Please give me a call at 217/333-5545 or send me an email at [bbetts@uiuc.edu](mailto:bbetts@uiuc.edu) to talk about ways to get involved. 

## You Need to Know

We want our alumni and friends to know the support team who helps keep our office running smoothly. Many of you may already know Carla Manuel from your student days. She joined the advancement office in May after many years assisting in the administrative office of the Department of Pathobiology. Kristen Reifsteck has been with us since last summer. Both are eager to get to know our many donors and to assist you in any way. You can reach them at 217/333-2761 or via email at [advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu).



# Your support makes a difference!



**Yes**, I want to support the College of Veterinary Medicine with my gift of: ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please direct my gift to ☐ Veterinary Medicine Achievement Fund (334415) ☐ Area of greatest need

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☐ Please contact me to discuss planned giving options or naming opportunities at the College.

☐ My check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ made payable to "University of Illinois Foundation" is enclosed.

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Your fellow alumni, as well as the College of Veterinary Medicine, want to find out what has been happening in your life. Send your news to be included in *Veterinary Report*, which is mailed three times a year and is also available online at [www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vetreport/](http://www.cvm.uiuc.edu/vetreport/). Email your updates to [editor@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:editor@cvm.uiuc.edu) or mail or fax this handy form.

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News about you (attach other sheets if necessary):

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## August

- 15 Veterinary Medicine Exhibit at the Illinois State Fair, Springfield, Ill. Contact the Office of Public Engagement, 217/333-2907.
- 26– Sept. 4 CVM/SIVMA Veterinary Medicine Exhibit at the DuQuoin State Fair, DuQuoin, Ill. Contact the Office of Public Engagement, 217/333-2907.

## September

- 14–15 Annual Fall Conference for Veterinarians, Urbana, Ill.
- 14–16 University of Illinois Foundation Annual Meeting, Champaign, Ill. Contact the Office of Advancement at [advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu)
- 16 Football Tent Party, Illini vs. Syracuse, Champaign, Ill. Contact the Office of Advancement at [advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu).

## October

- 5 CARE Helpline Fundraiser: Webster White's House Party, Urbana, Ill. Contact the Office of Advancement at [advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu).
- 6 Alumni Association Board Meeting, Urbana, Ill. Contact the Office of Advancement at [advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu).
- 7 University of Illinois Homecoming, Urbana, Ill.

## November

- 4 Illinois State Veterinary Medical Association Convention Alumni Reception, Itasca, Ill. Contact the Office of Advancement at [advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu)

## December

- 4 American Association of Equine Practitioners Alumni Reception, San Antonio, Texas. Contact the Office of Advancement at [advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu](mailto:advancement@cvm.uiuc.edu)

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# Dr. Manfra Makes a House Call



*Excerpted from an article by Sondra Katzen, Brookfield Zoo*

On April 16 zookeepers noticed an inch-and-a-half section of a tooth on the ground in the indoor quarters of Makonnen, a 6-year-old African lion who lives at Brookfield Zoo.

Staff speculate that the lion probably broke his lower right canine tooth while chewing on one of the bones he receives weekly to help promote gum and tooth health. Although Makonnen showed no hint of pain, no change in behavior or appetite, and no blood in his mouth, a decision was made to perform a root canal on the broken tooth in order to prevent complications.

That's when the director of veterinary services there, Dr. Tom Meehan, called Dr. Sandra Manfra, chair of the small animal surgery section at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital and a charter member of the American Veterinary Dental College.

Dr. Manfra traveled to Brookfield Zoo's Animal Hospital in early May to perform the root canal. During the two-hour procedure, radiographs were taken and a temporary filling was applied. Two weeks later, she made a return visit to permanently fill and cap the tooth with the same dental composite that is used for humans.

Both procedures were successful.

Makonnen's surgery is part of a much larger collaboration between the Chicago Zoological Society and the College of Veterinary Medicine. The two institutions are working together to train future veterinarians. The zoo and university joined with Lincoln Park Zoo and Shedd Aquarium to create the Zoological Pathology Program in 1993 and a veterinary residency program last summer. Dr. Jennifer Langan, our faculty member based at Brookfield Zoo, has been overseeing fourth-year veterinary students completing a clinical rotation at the zoo since 1999. Several students in this program came to observe Makonnen's root canal performed by Dr. Manfra. 🐾



College of Veterinary Medicine

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